

IN ATTENDANCE

Regular members of the Crime Prevention and Policing Committee. This group includes FPT (Public Safety Canada and Justice Canada), RCMP representation and provincial police representation (e.g. OPP).

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Transportation Canada and Finance Canada presented the National Towing Strategy.

MEETING OPEN

Talal Dakalbab for Public Safety Canada and Hayley Crichton for Nova Scotia (co-chairs) opened the meeting and welcomed colleagues from across the country to discuss the ongoing protests and demonstrations in Ottawa.

A small agenda was prepared to guide discussions, however, the agenda remains flexible. Current items include:

- 1) EMA Briefing
- 2) National Strategic Enforcement Strategy
- 3) National Tow strategy
- 4) Roundtable

Louise Baird with Intergovernmental Affairs Canada discussed process of the enactment for the Emergency Management Act. The Emergency has been categorized as a public order emergency. This was in response to collective understanding across the country.

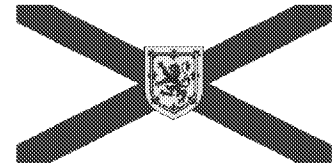
Gazetting of Order and Regulations completed.

There is a requirement for consultation and the Prime Minister met with Premiers on Monday morning. This was taken into account for the decision made. More information was provided with examples of measures that could be used under the EMA. There remains strong interest for collaboration and consultation as measures of the Act are implemented. There will be a follow up meeting at the DM level tomorrow.

Dominic Rochon (Public Safety Canada) discussed the implementation of the EMA and the impact on provinces. Summarized where we stand today. It was invoked on February 14, 2022. A proclamation order was made public yesterday for the public order emergency. The public order emergency grants five areas: the ability to regulate public assembly; ability to designate and protect places; assume restoration of critical infrastructure; ability to restore essential services and movement of essential goods; and ability to impose summary conviction for a fine not exceeding \$5k or imprisonment not exceeding 6 months. This will be revisited every seven days moving forward.

The regulations posted provide further specificity [I have attached for your ease of reference].

Military is not being called. Not overriding Charter of Rights. Not preventing people from protesting legally.



RCMP Dennis Daley from Contract and Indigenous Policing discussed the operational impact for policing across the province. The new Act is temporary and from a police perspective they are reasonable and need to be used proportionally. Will be used to get *serious* unlawful assembly under control. It does not change the mandate of the police of jurisdiction – rather it provides new tools so all police can use. What this means in real terms is the regulations will prevent travel to the location of an unlawful protest, will prevent children under 18, and (most important) the ability to *compel* essential services to assist. This is specific to tow companies. We acknowledge that some have been threatened but they will be informed of the jeopardy they face.

Outside of Ottawa, all borders are now functioning.

There is now a unified command in Ontario with RCMP, OPP, and OCP.

RCMP Michel Arcand discussed the economic aspect. The Order now allows for the police to address the financing of the protest as it moves forward. It allows Canada to provide information to the top six financial institutions to freeze funding associated with unlawful activity and participation in the protests. Working closely with Ontario partners. Currently only applied in Ottawa. Discussions are ongoing about how police may use this information.

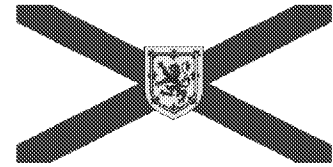
Alberta Marlin Degrand stated the new authorities to prohibit the use of items that may facilitate a blockade, however, the piece about designating a specific site (e.g. critical infrastructure) would suggest that the designation does not need to first have an illegal blockade before the police can designate. Is that correct? Dennis Daley clarifies that there are areas that are currently designated as essential infrastructure and police can move to protect those areas now regardless of any current/ongoing unlawful assembly. Definitions are broad enough to include all levels across the country.

Ontario Rick Stubbings asks for RCMP to comment on how a police officer on the ground may work to investigate the financial component of the EMA. RCMP Michel Arcand states police collect information and provide to the financial institution. It is the financial institution then is required to find the accounts and freeze assets. Banks, security dealers, crypto, etc.

CBSA Lynne Lamarche states that they have identified 26 high risk entry points. CBSA has gone into strategy to harden the existing trade corridors and will take urgent action to procure barriers etc. Working closely with POJ and officials to ensure the integrity of essential transportation routes are maintained.

Saskatchewan Rob Cameron asks who has the authority from a law enforcement perspective – does it apply to all peace officers in your province? Dennis Daley states it is undetermined at this time. Legal services are looking into it.

British Columbia Glen Lewis asks if constituency offices are contemplated under this legislated framework? Justice Canada Dominic Rochon states that if there is probable grounds under section 2.1, that is correct. Designation comes into play when you want to secure a location *in anticipation*.



Transport Canada Aaron McCrorie states that when this meeting was first scheduled, the intention was to discuss the strategic enforcement strategy, but the EMA provides a stronger basis for this discussion. There is quite a strong warning inherent in the invocation of the EMA and the Order and from a Transport point of view the intent is to support enforcement (e.g. strategic check points). Down the road, the consequences will be felt through court decisions, and these should be publicized to remind people of the consequences of participation.

Prepared by Hayley Crichton 2022-02-16